

Today's News - Tuesday, March 8, 2016

- Goldberger counters the Calatrava transit hub naysayers: get beyond the dinosaur and bird metaphors (and gargantuan budget) and see it as "a truly sumptuous interior space for the benefit of the public - nothing would be worse than to have it provoke a backlash against spending money on infrastructure...investing in the public realm isn't throwing away money."
- Byrnes has a long chat with Calatrava re: some of his first transit stations and his Oculus transit hub: "I love Grand Central, but I think our station is even more urban."
- Lange takes stock of the "new-old Met Breuer - it has been some time since the original building looked this good" (but too bad the architecture "was compromised on the second and third floors").
- Brake takes a totally different angle on the Met Breuer: "Breuer's original intentions are more alive than ever. But the larger question of the building's future remains": what happens when the Met's lease is up?
- Davidson cheers the "atomic-era futuristic optimism" of BIG's VIA 57 West pyramid: it is "a joyous rewrite of the partly affordable rental building" - it is "a community, not a cocoon."
- Kamin cheered Hickey's plan to relocate the Lucas Museum last week, and now gives thumbs-up to Jahn's "big idea" to revamp McCormick Place. "But will Mr. Star Wars go for any of them?" (he "doesn't appear to be open to a Plan B").
- An architect tours Calais' Jungle refugee camp, and issues a plea for architects to step up and "help provide a solution that actually works. It does not take a huge leap in one's imagination to know there could have been something different, something better."
- MacMillan ponders whether climate change and increasing urbanization and globalization are making "resilience the new sustainability" that calls for a "turquoise agenda," though combining "green" and "blue" agendas "may require trade-offs."
- Hume has high hopes that fast-growing Toronto will not forget that its older buildings, "these unattractive, aging heaps can be more conducive to good urban health than all the glass-and-steel condo towers in the world."
- Green x 2: he cheers Washington, DC, for seeing value in preservation in planning for a population explosion, citing the adaptive reuse of a "charismatic Victorian building" that had fallen on hard times.
- He parses the "dueling visions" for Friedberg's Pershing Park, both of which depend on whether it is added to the National Register of Historic Places.
- Giovannini pens his second (and even better) tribute to the "charismatic, inventive, and subversive" Parent, "considered the Piranesi of his time."
- Budds parses postcards from Detroit by local photographers that will be handed out at the U.S. Pavilion in Venice: they "go beyond ruin porn" and "show a more nuanced version of the city."
- In honor of International Women's Day, a round-up of 15 exceptional projects by 15 exceptional women.
- Speaking of which, the U.K.'s Architectural Review names Jeanne Gang Architect of the Year, and Gabriela Etchegaray winner of the Moira Gemmill Prize for Emerging Architecture.
- In Australia, Victoria puts the spotlight on some of its own emerging women architects, the "quiet achievers doing extraordinary things."
- RAIC gives the 5-year-old, Montreal-based La SHED Architecture the 2016 Emerging Architectural Practice Award.
- World Habitat Awards recognize three urban housing pioneers helping the poor in England and Puerto Rico and inspiring similar programs.
- Eye-fuls of the winners in Storefront's Taking Buildings Down Competition.

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Beyond the Hype, Santiago Calatrava's \$4 Billion Transportation Hub Is a Genuine People's Cathedral: ...capable of inspiring something that has been in particularly short supply at Ground Zero, which is hope...a truly sumptuous interior space for the benefit of the public...nothing would be worse than to have it provoke a backlash against spending money on infrastructure...Its best legacy would be to encourage us to take more chances, and to recognize that investing in the public realm isn't throwing away money. It is investing in the future, a gift from our generation to the ones that follow. By Paul Goldberger- [Vanity Fair](#)

A Long Chat With Santiago Calatrava on What Train Stations Mean to Cities: "I love Grand Central, but I think our station is even more urban," says the architect behind New York's new \$4 billion transit hub: ...discusses some of his first transit stations, how they influenced his current thinking, and the experience of building New York's most recent and expensive public space. By Mark Byrnes [\[images\]](#)- [CityLab](#) (formerly [The Atlantic Cities](#))

Taking Stock of the New-Old Met Breuer: The Whitney's cutting-edge identity is gone, but the architecture remains: ...it has been some time since the original building looked this good....the architects stripped the spaces of decades of additions...Here's hoping...the lower level and sunken sculpture court...still feel open to the public...It was not the art, but the architecture, that was compromised on the second and third floors.... By Alexandra Lange -- Marcel Breuer (1966); Beyer Blinder Belle; Guther Vogt- [Curbed](#)

New York should give Breuer's building lasting protection: Metropolitan Museum of Art's temporary move in to the Whitney's old unprotected Breuer building is the result of behind-the-scenes machinations of a major donor. Thank goodness: Breuer's original intentions are more alive than ever...But the larger question of the building's future remains...What will happen after the Met's eight-year lease comes to an end? By Alan G. Brake -- Beyer Blinder Belle- [Dezeen](#)

A First Look at the Great Pyramid of West 57th Street: VIA 57 West...a joyous rewrite of the partly affordable rental building, a type that for years has choked the skyline with invasive species of featureless glass...Ingels taps into this atomic-era futuristic optimism not for its nostalgia value but to recover the geometry's forgotten potential...[he] has designed a community, not a cocoon. By Justin Davidson -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Starr Whitehouse [\[images\]](#)- [New York Magazine](#)

Helmut Jahn has a big idea for George Lucas: Revamp McCormick Place: As in the great "Star Wars" flicks, tension is building, passions are rising, and it's difficult to divine how this tortured saga will play out...Lucas doesn't appear to be open to a Plan B...Like Thomas Hickey's plan...the Jahn sketch shows that there's no shortage of creative alternatives...But will Mr. Star Wars go for any of them? Don't set your heart on it. By Blair Kamin [\[images\]](#)- [Chicago Tribune](#)

The architectural community cannot remain apathetic to Calais' Jungle and the refugee crisis: It's time that architects stepped in to help provide a solution that actually works...new container-ship camp looks and operates like a detention centre...It does not take a huge leap in one's imagination to know there could have been something different, something better. By Jeannie S Lee/EVA (Emergent Vernacular Architecture)- [Dezeen](#)

Is Resilience the New Sustainability? ...climate change, population growth, increasing urbanisation and globalisation are creating significant challenges...transforming our cities for the future will increasingly require investment in both 'green' and 'blue' planning and design: the 'turquoise agenda'...However, it is not as easy in practice at the urban planning level...a tension exists between 'green' and 'blue' agendas and that to accept both may require trade-offs. By Sophi MacMillan -- [Rockefeller Foundation](#); [100 Resilient Cities](#)- [Sourceable](#)

City's vigour comes from what's old - and ordinary: Older buildings...adapt easily to a neighbourhood's changing needs; newer creations, not so much: In fast-growing Toronto...it's easy to forget that these unattractive, aging heaps can be more conducive to good urban health than all the glass-and-steel condo towers in the world. By Christopher Hume- [Toronto Star](#)

D.C. Plans for Preservation Amid Population Explosion: How does a historic, monumental city with a defined border and building-height limit accommodate the influx of another 150,000 people over the next two decades? ...a major part of the answer is adaptive reuse...One example...the new O Street Market, an adaptive reuse [of] a charismatic Victorian building... By Jared Green -- Shalom Baranes Associates - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Dueling Visions for Pershing Park: ...[it] is either a unique, Modern landscape that deserves to be protected...or an outdated, unwelcoming park that...needs to be redesigned...all parties are awaiting word from the National Park Service, which should decide shortly on whether the park will be...in the National Register of Historic Places...More collaboration...will be needed after the NPS announces its decision. By Jared Green -- M. Paul Friedberg/Oehme, van Sweden (1981); Joseph Weishaar/Phoebe McCormick Lickwar/Sabin Howard; Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Remembering Claude Parent: The French architect of the oblique, considered the Piranesi of his time, had a lasting influence on a younger generation of architects, including Jean Nouvel...Architecture has lost one of its towering figures...charismatic, inventive, and subversive... By Joseph Giovannini - Architect Magazine

Finally, Photographs Of Detroit That Go Beyond Ruin Porn: ...local photographers show a more nuanced version of the city...U.S. pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale...is focused on speculative projects in Detroit..."The Architectural Imagination"...Postcards...will be distributed...to give visitors a sense of what it's like to live in the city today and offer context to the architectural designs on view, which grapple with underutilized sites in the area. By Diana Budds -- Cynthia Davidson; Mónica Ponce de León; Camilo José Vergara [images] - Fast Company / Co.Design

In Honor of International Women's Day, 15 Exceptional Projects: ...designed by female architects. -- Zaha Hadid, Di Zhang, Carme Pinos, Jeanne Gang, Carla Juaçaba, Bia Lessa, Elisabete de Oliveira Saldanha, Sandra Barclay, Kazuyo Sejima, Sharon Davis, Elisa Burnazzi, Tatiana Bilbao, Jô Vasconcellos, Odile Decq, Maria Victoria Besonías, Lina Bo Bardi [images] - ArchDaily

Jeanne Gang named Architect of the Year and Gabriela Etchegaray winner of the Moira Gemmill Prize for Emerging Architecture: Both have demonstrated excellence in design and a commitment to working both sustainably and democratically with local communities. -- Studio Gang; Ambrosi Etchegaray [images] - Architectural Review (UK)

Women leading the way in 2016: Perhaps in the past what has not been as visible is the contribution women make to our urban fabric. In 2016 it is clear that this visibility issue is changing...On this International Women's Day, it is fitting to...highlight the talent of some of Victoria's quiet achievers doing extraordinary things. -- Maria Danos; Yvonne Meng/Von Atelier; Claire Scorpo Architects; Jane Cameron Finlay; Delia Teschendorff; etc. [images] - Architecture & Design (Australia)

RAIC names recipient of 2016 Emerging Architectural Practice Award: La SHED Architecture, a nine-person office, was founded in 2011..."The work is original, authentic, and exhibits a strong sense of curiosity. The projects take a sophisticated and often inventive approach. The examples appear well rooted in the local community." [images] - Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)

World Habitat Awards recognize urban housing pioneers: The three winners of this year's awards help the poor in England and Puerto Rico obtain affordable housing and avoid displacement...More than 100 U.K. groups have launched similar programs modeled on the efforts of both charities. -- Canopy; Giroscope; Caño Martín Peña Community Land Trust - Citiscope.org

Winners: Taking Buildings Down Competition, winner of Storefront's Competition of Competitions: proposals for the production of voids; demolition...or the subtraction of objects and/or matter as a creative act; 3 ex aequo awards, 5 honorable mentions. -- Antonas Office; Maciej Siuda, Rodrigo Garda Gonzalez; Untitled Studio; etc. [images] - Storefront for Art and Architecture (New York City)



Luigi Rosselli Architects: The Great Wall of W.A., Western Australia: these truly unique residences embody the landscape and vernacular of the Australian outback...earth-covered residences, providing short-term accommodation during the cattle-mustering season...A complex of built forms in dialogue with the landscape. [images]

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